

KENT CENTER SCHOOL

9 Judd Avenue, P. O. Box 219, Kent, CT 06757

Phone: 860.927.3537 Fax: 860.927.3925

August 2013

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Regular and punctual attendance is essential to the educational progress. In order to assist parents and other persons in meeting this responsibility, the Kent Board of Education monitors unexcused absences and makes reasonable efforts to notify parents/guardians by contacting them when a student fails to report to school. The Connecticut State Board of Education adopted an attendance and truancy memorandum in June of 2012 that has changed the definition of excused and unexcused absences and associated reporting requirements. The Kent Board of Education has revised their policy to include these changes.

The student's **first nine absences** are considered excused when the parent/guardian approves such absence and notifies the school of the absence.

The **tenth absence and all absences thereafter** will be considered excused when the school receives appropriate and timely documentation of one of the following reasons:

1. Student illness (verified by an appropriately licensed medical professional)
2. Religious holidays
3. Mandated court appearances (documentation required);
4. Funeral or death in the family, or other emergency beyond the control of the student's family;
5. Extraordinary educational opportunities pre-approved by the district administrators and in accordance with Connecticut State Department of Education guidance;
6. Lack of transportation that is normally provided by a district other than the one the student attends

A student is considered **truant** if s/he has four (4) unexcused absences in a month or ten (10) unexcused absences in the school year. When a student is truant the school Principal shall schedule a meeting with the parents and appropriate school personnel to review and evaluate the reasons for the student's truancy. The meeting may result in coordinated services and referrals of students to community agencies providing child and family services as appropriate.

School attendance is an integral part of a student's total educational experience. Please contact the school with any questions or concerns you have in regards to attendance issues.

Sincerely,

Florence Budge  
Principal

It is the policy of Regional School district one that no person shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise discriminated against under any program, including employment, because of race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, disability, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut State and/or Federal non-discrimination laws. Inquiries regarding district non-discrimination policies should be directed to the director of Pupil Services, 236 Warren Turnpike Road, Falls Village, CT 06031, 860-824-5369, ext. 4